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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF
WORTLEY

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ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year 1937

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To the Chairman and Members of the Wortley Rural District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1937.

The health of the district during the year was very good, the sickness and mortality rates being well below the average. In only two previous years has a lower death rate been recorded. The infant mortality was also low, and there were fewer deaths amongst persons of 65 years of age and over.

The death rate from tuberculosis of the respiratory system was next to the lowest, recorded in 1936, and there were no deaths from other forms of tuberculosis.

There was no unusual prevalence of infectious disease. No fatalities were caused by Scarlet Fever, Measles or Whooping Cough and only one death occurred from Diphtheria. There were no cases of Typhoid Fever or Cerebro-spinal Fever.

There were no deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years of age), which used to take heavy toll of infant lives.

No deaths occurred from Puerperal Sepsis. One death, however, occurred from other puerperal causes, the maternal mortality being at the rate of 2.46 per 1000 total births, as compared with 3.11 for England and Wales.

The birth rate remained low, and was lower than that of the country generally.

The chief rates of mortality are set out for comparison with those of England and Wales, as follows:—

	DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION							RATE PER 1000 BIRTHS	
	All Causes	Scarlet Fever	Diph-theria	Typhoid Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Influ-enza	Diarr-hoea (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under one year
Wortley Rural District	10.3	nil	0.03	nil	nil	nil	0.42	nil	46
England and Wales	12.4	0.01	0.07	0.00	0.02	0.04	0.45	5.8	58

All the local rates of mortality are calculated on an estimated population exclusive of the inmates of the mental hospital.

A review of the statistics of recent years shows that continuous improvement has taken place in the health of the population of the district. The following table sets out the birth rates and the death rates of a few of the chief causes of death since 1902, in five-yearly periods:—

	Death rate per 1000 population				Rate per 1000 births	
	Births	Deaths	Respiratory Tuberculosis	Respiratory Diseases	Total deaths under 1 year	Diarrhoea under 2 years
1902-06	32.2	14.3	0.89	3.0	121	21.3
1907-11	28.9	14.2	0.72	2.9	113	16.9
1912-16	25.8	12.9	0.69	2.5	97	7.4
1917-21	22.9	13.1	0.77	2.4	88	5.5
1922-26	19.4	11.3	0.55	2.1	67	6.1
1927-31	15.5	11.2	0.42	1.8	75	4.2
1932-36	13.4	10.7	0.33	1.4	52	2.6

During the 35 years the birth rate has rapidly and progressively declined from 32.2 to 13.4 per 1000 of the population

The general death rate has decreased, but this cannot be expected to continue in view of the ageing character of the population.

There has been a striking decrease in the infantile mortality and in the diarrhoeal death rate amongst children under two years of age.

The death rate from respiratory tuberculosis has gradually declined and the mortality from diseases of the respiratory system has also shown a downward tendency, although part of this decrease, in the case of Bronchitis, may be due to some change in classification, some of the chronic types being placed under the heading of myocarditis (heart disease).

The prevalence of the commoner infectious diseases has not altered much. Typhoid Fever has practically disappeared from this district and the incidence of Scarlet Fever has declined during the last twenty years, but there has been little change inthe prevalence of Diphtheria, Measles and Whooping Cough. The mortality has however, considerably decreased. Whereas in the five years 1902-06, the total deaths from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Measles and Whooping Cough were 29, 29, 25, and 32 respectively, in the five years 1932-36 the corresponding figures were 1, 8, 2, and 5. Scarlet Fever is now less severe in type. Diphtheria has shown a tendency to become more virulent in certain outbreaks but in the future these should be reduced to small proportions if parents took full advantage of the facilities for free inoculation against this disease. Measles and Whooping Cough have lately been attended by fewer fatalities. In the case of Measles, preventive methods by the inoculation of convalescent or adult serum are being resorted to in institutional outbreaks and will, no doubt, become more generally adopted when serum is available in sufficient quantity.

On the other hand the mortality from Cancer, from diseases of the Circulatory and of the Central Nervous System is on the increase. In the case of Cancer the higher incidence is due mainly to the larger proportionate numbers of the population living at ages more prone to malignant disease. Great advances have, however, been made in the treatment of Cancer by means of surgery, radium etc., which, if undertaken at a sufficiently early stage, can frequently avert a fatal issue or prolong life.

Such progress as is indicated by the vital statistics has been due partly to improvement in environmental conditions and partly to the educative influences of such social services as school medical inspection, health visiting, child welfare centres and tuberculosis clinics. Improvement of the environment will soon have reached a stage when much further advance cannot be expected in this direction and in the future progress is more likely to be achieved by attention to personal hygiene and to adequate nutrition of the people.

Population

The population of the district at the middle of the year is estimated by the Registrar General to be 30,320, being an increase of 270 over the estimate for 1936.

The natural increase of the population (i.e. the excess of births over deaths) during the year was 99.

A considerable proportion of the increase in the population is due to immigration which continues to take place in the localities adjoining the City of Sheffield, almost all the newly erected private dwelling houses at Stannington, Oughtibridge and Grenoside being occupied by non-residents.

The distribution of the population in the various parishes at the census of 1931 is shown in the following table:—

Parish	Acreage	Occupied dwellings	Population in private families	Persons per house	Total Population 1921	Total Population 1931
Ecclesfield	6,147	3,841	15,766	4.10	15,998	16,019
Bradfield	35,134	2,036	7,707	3.78	8,801	9,887
Tankersley	2,465	519	2,328	4.49	2,475	2,349
Wortley	5,617	193	793	4.11	885	798
Whole District	49,363	6,589	26,594	4.04	28,159	29,053

Since the census, the population is estimated to have increased by 1267 persons only, but, during the six years, 1,407 new dwellings have been occupied, so that, notwithstanding the decrease in the average number of persons per house which has resulted from the low birth rate, there must have been at the same time a considerable amount of emigration from the district.

The rateable value of the district is £180,196 and the produce of a penny rate is £693.

Births

During the year there were 392 live births, equal to a birth rate of 13.8 per 1000 of the estimated population. This rate was slightly higher than the rates of 1936 and 1935, which were 13.3 and 13.6 respectively. The average rate for the previous five years was 13.4.

The birth rate for England and Wales in 1937 was 14.9

The male births numbered 214 and the female births 178.

There were 8 illegitimate births, equal to a rate of 20 per 1000 births.

Still births numbered 16, equal to a rate of 0.49 per 1000 of the population, as compared with 0.60 for England and Wales. Two still births were illegitimate.

Deaths

The deaths credited to the district numbered 293, equal to a death rate of 10.3 per 1000 of the population. In only two previous years has a lower death rate been recorded in the district. The average rate for the previous five years was 10.7

The death rate for England and Wales in 1937 was 12.4. Comparison of the death rate of the district with that of the country as a whole or of other sanitary districts is rendered more accurate if account is taken of the varying sex and age constitution of the populations. As the death rate is higher in the older age groups and in the male sex, a population which contains a larger proportion of old persons and an excess of males would experience a higher mortality than one in which the opposite conditions exist, apart from any other influences. The Registrar General publishes for each district a factor which, when applied to the crude death rate, gives a rate which would have obtained if the sex and age constitution of the district had been similar to that of England and Wales at the last census. The factor for this district is 1.06, which means that the sex and age constitution of the district is slightly more favourable to a low mortality than that of England and Wales.

The effect of applying this factor to the local death rate for the year is to increase it by 0.6 per 1000 of the population the recorded death rate being increased from 10.3 to 10.9

There were 169 male and 124 female deaths.

The deaths at selected age periods were:—

Under 1 year	18
1 to 2 years	1
2 „ 5 „	2
5 „ 15 „	6
15 „ 25 „	6
25 „ 45 „	21
45 „ 65 „	80
65 years and over	159

There has been a reduction in the mortality at all ages periods, as compared with the previous year, but especially amongst persons of advanced age. There were 20 fewer deaths amongst persons of 65 years of age and over than in 1936, when the death rate was 12.3.

Of the total deaths, 75 occurred in public institutions, equal to 25.6 per cent.

Inquests were held in 18 instances and 5 deaths were certified by the Coroner after post-mortem without inquest.

There were no uncertified deaths.

The death rates in the sub-districts were:—Ecclesfield, 9.6; Chapeltown, 10.9; Bradfield, 10.9; Tankersley, 8.5; Wortley, 8.8.

Infantile Mortality

Eighteen deaths occurred amongst infants under one year of age, equal to an infantile mortality of 46 per 1000 live births.

The infantile death rate is lower than that of 1936 and only in three previous years has a lower rate been recorded. In 1935, 1934 and 1933, the rates were 42, 31 and 45, respectively. The average rate for the previous ten years was 64.

The infantile mortality for England and Wales in 1937 was 58.

Nine deaths occurred amongst male and nine amongst female infants. There were no deaths amongst illegitimate infants.

Of the total infantile deaths, 11 occurred within the first week of life, one within three weeks, one within two months, one within five months, two within six months and two after six months.

The chief causes of infantile deaths during 1937 and the previous five years are set out in the following table:—

INFANTILE MORTALITY PER 1000 BIRTHS

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Common Infectious Diseases	3	3	5	nil	3	nil
Diarrhoeal Diseases	nil	3	nil	8	3	nil
Prematurity	38	8	5	16	29	25
Congenital and Wasting Diseases	11	6	8	5	3	3
Convulsions	8	nil	nil	5	nil	nil
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	14	19	8	3	21	13
Other Causes	5	6	5	5	5	5

The absence of any fatalities amongst infants from infectious diseases, diarrhoeal diseases and convulsions and the low incidence of wasting diseases are very satisfactory indications of the great improvement that has taken place during recent years in child welfare. Further saving of infant lives cannot be expected unless premature births are prevented.

This can perhaps, be achieved by more efficient nutrition of expectant mothers especially in regard to deficiency in their diet of certain essential vitamins. There is promise for the future in this connection if mothers would take advantage of the facilities now available at the various ante-natal centres.

Seven of the deaths occurred in Ecclesfield parish, nine in Bradfield, two in Tankersley and none in Wortley. There were no deaths in that part of Ecclesfield parish which is outside Chapeltown Special Drainage District.

Tuberculous Diseases

During the year six deaths were due to tuberculosis of the respiratory system, equal to a rate of 0.21 per 1000 of the population, which was next to the lowest recorded in the district. The average rate for the previous ten years was 0.38.

There were no deaths from other forms of tuberculosis.

Respiratory Diseases caused 27 deaths, of which 12 were due to Bronchitis, 13 to Pneumonia and two to other diseases of the respiratory system.

Malignant Diseases caused 48 deaths, of which 47 were ascribed to Cancer. In view of the increasing mortality from this disease, its early diagnosis and treatment is of the utmost importance if a fatal issue is to be avoided or postponed. Facilities for treatment by radium are available at the Sheffield radium centre for all who are contributors to the penny in the pound scheme of the voluntary hospitals. In the case of those who are not contributors, the County Council have arranged, in the event of the inability of cancer patients to pay for their in-patient treatment or for their railway fare and out-patient charges, to pay these charges subject to retaining their right to reclaim part of the cost of treatment

in accordance with the scale approved by the County Council. In any case the County Council will pay travelling expenses. This scheme appears to be meeting a real need and is being taken full advantage of.

Epidemic Diseases—During the year only one death was caused by infectious disease. This was a case of Diphtheria.

There were no deaths form Scarlet Fever, Measles or Whooping Cough or Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years of age). The death rate form Diarrhoea and Enteritis in England and Wales during the year was 5.8 per 1000 births.

Influenza caused 12 deaths, equal to a death rate of 0.42 per 1000 of the population, as compared with a rate of 0.45 for England and Wales.

Heart Disease caused 75 deaths and other diseases of the circulatory system 17 deaths.

Twelve deaths were due to Cerebral Haemorrhage, 12 to Nephritis, 5 to Peptic ulcer, 5 to Appendicitis, 6 to other diseases of the digestive system, 4 to Diabetes and 4 to Rheumatic Fever.

Maternal Mortality—No deaths were caused by Puerperal Sepsis. There was, however, one death during pregnancy, the maternal mortality being at the rate of 2.46 per 1000 total births, as compared with 3.11 for England and Wales.

Various forms of **Violence** caused 11 deaths, equal to a rate of 0.39 per 1000 of the population, as compared with 0.54 for England and Wales.

Prevalence and Fatality of Infectious and other Diseases

1. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis).

During the year 149 notifications were received in respect of the following diseases:—

	Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	75	69	—
Diphtheria	18	16	1
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—
Erysipelas	16	2	1
Pneumonia	34	4	13
Puerperal Fever	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	3	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—

The age distribution of the notified cases is shown in the following table:—

Age periods	Scarlet Fever	Diph-theria	Ery-sipelas	Pneu-monia	Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia
under 1 year	—	—	—	2	—
1— 2 years	2	—	1	2	—
2— 3 „	2	—	—	—	—
3— 4 „	4	1	—	—	—
4— 5 „	7	1	—	—	—
5—10 „	30	4	—	6	—
10—15 „	18	5	—	—	—
15—20 „	6	2	—	—	—
20—35 „	5	2	1	5	5
35—45 „	1	3	1	2	—
45—65 „	—	—	11	14	—
65 and over	—	—	2	3	—

Scarlet Fever—There were 75 notifications of Scarlet Fever, equal to a case rate of 2.65 per 1000 of the population, as compared with 2.33 for England and Wales.

The disease was not so prevalent as in 1936 and 1935, when 190 and 103 cases were notified, respectively. The average annual number of cases during the previous ten years was 106.

There were no deaths.

Ninety-two per cent of the cases were admitted to hospital.

The monthly distribution of the cases in the various sub-districts is shown in the following table:—

	Ecclesfield	Chapeltown and Highgreen	Bradfield	Tankersley	Wortley	Total
January	—	2	2	—	—	4
February	3	1	—	—	—	4
March	7	3	3	—	—	13
April	2	1	12	—	—	15
May	1	2	11	—	—	14
June	1	1	5	1	—	8
July	—	2	1	—	—	3
August	—	1	—	—	—	1
September	1	1	1	1	—	4
October	—	—	3	2	—	5
November	1	—	—	—	—	1
December	1	1	1	—	—	3
Total	17	15	39	4	—	75

In Ecclesfield parish 32 cases occurred, of which 6 were at Ecclesfield, 9 at Grenoside, 1 at Thorpe Hesley, 1 at Grange Lane, 5 at Chapeltown and 10 at Highgreen.

In Bradfield parish there were 39 cases, of which 15 occurred at Bradfield, 2 at Dungworth, 2 at Storrs, 2 at Ughill, 1 at Holdworth, 6 at Stannington. 2 at Little Matlock, 1 at Rivelin, 4 at Loxley, 1 at Wadsley and 3 at Oughtibridge. The outbreak at Low Bradfield and the immediate neighbourhood during April and May occurred in a locality where there had been very few cases of Scarlet Fever in recent years and, consequently, almost all the young persons were susceptible to this infection. Altogether 17 cases occurred, of whom 8 attended the local school, 2 attended other schools, 3 were under and 4 were over school age. Inspection of the children in school when the first cases were reported did not reveal any child attending school in a presumably infectious condition. There were, however several absentees and, on making enquiries at their homes, I found five cases in three families whose recent illness pointed to a mild attack of Scarlet Fever. In none of these cases had any medical advice been sought. At my request a doctor was called in and, after consultation with him, I arranged for their removal to hospital.

The illness of the children and young persons was being treated lightly by the parents but when its real nature was revealed, the other families became alarmed, with the result that the children were kept away from school and the attendance was reduced to three scholars. School closure in the case of Scarlet Fever is rarely resorted to and is generally useless as a means of preventing the spread of infection, but in the exceptional circumstances existing at Bradfield, there seemed to be no option from an educational point of view and the school was closed for three weeks under Art. 45 (6) of the Code.

All the cases were removed to hospital and no further cases occurred after May 25th, when the school was re-opened.

In Tankersley parish four cases occurred.

Diphtheria—During the year 18 cases of Diphtheria were notified, equal to a case rate of 0.63 per 1000 of the population, as compared with 1.49 for England and Wales.

The average annual number of cases for the previous ten years was 28.

One death occurred.

Sixteen cases were admitted to hospital.

In Ecclesfield parish there were eight cases of which 3 occurred at Chapeltown, 1 at Highgreen, 1 at Burncross, 2 at Hesley Lane and 1 at Ecclesfield.

In Bradfield Parish 10 cases occurred, of which 4 were at Stannington, 1 at Dungworth, 1 at Wisewood, 1 at Wadsley, and 3 at Oughtibridge.

There were no cases in Tankersley or Wortley parishes.

Typhoid Fever—No cases of Typhoid Fever occurred during the year.

Erysipelas—There were 16 cases of Erysipelas, of which 7 occurred amongst the inmates of the South Yorkshire Mental Hospital. There was one death.

Pneumonia—Thirty-four cases of Pneumonia were notified, of which five were stated to be of the influenza type. Nine of the cases occurred in Ecclesfield parish, 21 in Bradfield and 4 in Tankersley parish.

There were 13 deaths.

Puerperal Fever—One case of Puerperal Fever and four cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified.

All the cases recovered.

The case of Puerperal Fever and three of the cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were treated in the Jessop Hospital, Sheffield.

Since October 1st, 1937, when the Public Health Act, 1936, came into operation, Puerperal Fever is no longer notifiable as such, the term having been omitted from the definition of "notifiable disease" in section 343 of the Act. Since that date the obligation imposed on medical practitioners to notify cases of Puerperal Pyrexia includes the obligation to notify conditions at present notifiable as Puerperal Fever under the Infectious disease (Notification) Acts. Thus the term Puerperal Pyrexia will, in future, embrace all cases of Puerperal Fever.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum—On April 1st, 1937, the Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations 1937, came into operation. Under the old regulations cases of this disease were required to be notified to the medical officer of health of the county district within which the notifying practitioner is attending the child. The Amending Regulations now require all cases to be notified to the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority which in this area is the County Council. A copy of the notification is forwarded to the medical officer of health of the district within twenty-four hours.

One case was reported during the year. In this instance no impairment of vision resulted.

2. NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles was prevalent in a few localities. The disease was of a comparatively mild type and there were no fatalities. There were outbreaks at Ecclesfield, Grenoside, Highgreen and Stannington.

Whooping Cough was prevalent at Chapeltown and Highgreen. There were no deaths.

Cases of **Chickenpox** and **Mumps** occurred at Stannington, Dungworth and Tankersley.

Influenza was prevalent during the first quarter of the year and caused 12 deaths.

3. TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 17 new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis and 10 cases of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified. Of the former, one case occurred at Ecclesfield, one at Grenoside, six at Oughtibridge, one at Worrall, three at Wadsley, one at Loxley, one at Bradfield, two at Tankersley and one at Wortley.

The age and sex distribution of the cases is set out in the following table:—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M	F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
5	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
35	3	—	1	—	1	1	—	—
45	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	4	—	—	—	1	1	—	—

Sixteen cases received Sanatorium treatment.

All the deaths occurred amongst persons who had been previously notified except one, whose death was certified as due to pulmonary tuberculosis and diabetes.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to the employment of tuberculous persons in the milk trade, nor under section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which give power for the compulsory removal to hospital, under certain circumstances, of persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The Isolation Hospitals—During the year 89 cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital, Grenoside, viz:—Scarlet Fever, 69; Diphtheria, 16; Erysipelas, 2; Measles, 1; other diseases, 1.

There remained over from the previous year 7 cases of Scarlet Fever.

Of the cases of Scarlet Fever, 73 recovered and 3 remained in hospital at the end of the year.

Of the cases of Diphtheria, 14 recovered and 2 remained in hospital.

One case of Erysipelas, which was moribund on admission, died. The other case recovered.

The case of Measles recovered.

Bacteriological Examinations were made in the County Laboratory of 49 specimens from this district. These comprised 43 throat, nasal or ear swabs from persons suffering or suspected to be suffering from Diphtheria and six specimens of sputum.

Clinics—There are seven child welfare and school clinics in the district, situated at Ecclesfield, Grenoside, Chapeltown, Highgreen, Tankersley, Oughtibridge and Stannington.

Special ante-natal clinics are held at Ecclesfield, Chapeltown and Highgreen.

The site on the District Council's housing estate at Greenhead, Chapeltown, for a Maternity Home has been transferred to the County Council and the building plans have been approved.

There has been no alteration in the Tuberculosis Dispensary service, the dispensary at Wadsley Bridge serving the greater part of the district, and those at Stocksbridge and Barnsley being available for patients in outlying parts of Bradfield and Tankersley parishes.

Six County Health Visitors and School Nurses work in the district.

Ambulance facilities for cases of accident and sickness are provided by the Sheffield Joint Hospitals Council for all contributors to the 1d. in the £ scheme. In the case of non-contributors who may require hospital treatment the District Council pay an annual sum of £50 to the Sheffield Hospitals Council for the use of their ambulance.

For infectious cases the District Council provide one motor ambulance. In the case of an emergency due to the ambulance breaking down, or to more than one ambulance being required at one time, an arrangement was entered into with the Penistone District Isolation Hospital Committee for the use of their ambulance, this arrangement being reciprocal.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supply.—The rainfall for the year, recorded at the sewage works, Ecclesfield (172 feet above Ordnance datum), was 32.97 inches. This is considerably above the average, which was 29.15 for the previous twelve years, and 27.68 for twenty-four years at Potter Hill (582 feet), where records had previously been kept. The total rainfall was heavier than in any of the twelve years except 1930 and 1931, but it was unevenly distributed, only 10.98 inches having fallen during the last five months of the year. The driest months were June, August, September, and November.

There was no shortage in any of the public water supplies of the district, except for a temporary breakdown in the pump of the Hallbroom bore hole, in consequence of which the supply from the springs had to be supplemented from the disused Bents source and from adjoining moorland streams for a period of sixteen days.

A further attempt was made to solve the problem of securing a satisfactory water supply to the upper part of Grenoside. The existing supplies have been, on many previous occasions, reported on as being inadequate and liable to contamination. The houses are situated at such a high altitude that water cannot be obtained from the Sheffield Corporation mains, which supply the lower part of the village, without an expensive scheme of pumping. The sources at present available are a public well situated at a high level and private wells sunk in the yards and gardens of the houses. The water in the public well is not liable to contamination by house drainage, but the private wells tap the ground water, which, owing to the aggregation of dwellings, may become polluted, as the natural process of filtration through the subsoil cannot be relied upon.

The possibility of utilising the water in the Grenoside rock from a point well above the houses was explored. A test was made by the Surveyor of the yield from an old well sunk in the rock. It was estimated that the maximum yield after a dry period would be only about 600 gallons per day, which could not be considered sufficient for the 68 houses. He formed the opinion, after studying the geological formation in and about the area of the well, that it would be most unlikely that at any point in the Grenoside rock would sufficient water be found after a dry period. This opinion was confirmed by Mr. J. R. Elliott, Geologist.

The other water bearing strata which might be reliable are the Greenmoor rock about 200 feet below the Grenoside rock and the Wharncliffe rock 600 feet below the surface. The former stratum, however, has only a limited out crop of use to this area.

The only remaining source is that of the Sheffield Corporation.

The quality of the water in the various wells was investigated by submitting 46 samples from 32 wells to the public analyst. Six of these were both chemically and bacteriologically analysed and 40 were examined for bacterial impurities only. The results were generally unsatisfactory, only five wells being considered good.

The owners of the various properties have been informed of the position and formal notices have been issued under section 138 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Several owners have lodged appeals with the Ministry of Health.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal—No sewer extensions or alteration in any of the sewage works were carried out during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION AND SCAVENGING

The following table shows the number of houses, water closets, privies, etc., in the district at the end of the year:—

Locality	Houses	W.C's	Privies	Pail Closets	Ash-pits	Ash-bins
Ecclesfield	1313	1058	64	1	146	1022
Chapeltown and Highgreen	2605	1993	227	—	328	1877
Grenoside	622	398	136	—	165	329
Thorpe	157	67	43	—	42	44
Total Ecclesfield Parish	4697	3516	470	1	681	3272

Locality	Houses	W.C's	Privies	Pail Closets	Ash-pits	Ash-bins
Wadsley	43	26	2	—	6	42
Worrall	220	154	35	—	39	149
Oughtibridge	764	579	67	2	120	498
Wharncliffe Side	163	108	33	—	58	80
Wisewood and Loxley	288	167	92	—	96	154
Stannington	771	432	207	10	184	432
Bradfield	99	8	69	2	59	10
Hollow Meadows	39	23	14	6	16	10
Midhope	44	2	31	10	26	1
Rest of Bradfield	137	11	98	18	100	—
Total Bradfield Parish	2568	1510	648	48	704	1376
Tankersley Parish	540	461	81	6	104	391
Wortley Parish	191	108	100	—	84	51
Total	7996	5595	1299	55	1573	5090

During the year 13 water closets were substituted for privies and six additional water closets provided, without any contribution from public funds. The conversion of 50 additional privies was deferred until the new provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, came into force. These are now in hand. Thirteen ashpits were abolished and twenty ashbins provided.

Great progress has been made during recent years in the conversion of privies into water closets and in the substitution of ashbins for ashpits mainly under the provisions of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1907. In 1914 there were three and a half times more privies than water closets in the district. Now there are over four times as many water closets as privies. In 1914 there were only 105 ashbins in the district, as compared with 5090 at the present date.

The whole district, with the exception of a few outlying houses in Bradfield parish is publicly scavenged. Direct labour is employed except in the hamlet of Midhope, where the work is let out to a contractor. Seventeen men are employed full time in the work of scavenging. There are now four motor lorries in use and one motor lorry is hired for emptying ashbins in Tankersley and Wortley. Two 2-ton motor lorries were purchased during the year.

The use of motor lorries in scavenging is proving very successful in increasing the efficiency of the work and in permitting a reduction in the number of refuse tips. There are now only two tips in the whole of Bradfield parish, exclusive of Midhope. Steps were taken during the year to bring about a system of controlling all the tips in the district and are proving effective. Three men are employed full time and one man half time on these tips.

During the year 9,832 tons of refuse were removed and disposed of on tips at a cost of £4182 15s. 0d.

Nuisances—During the year 980 inspections were made for the detection and abatement of nuisances. Of 260 nuisances dealt with, 245 were abated.

Informal notices were served in 212 instances, of which 197 were complied with. Six statutory notices were issued, of which four were complied with.

The nuisances reported during the year comprised:— choked and defective drains, 89; defective water closets, 29; defective privies and ashpits, 22; defective ashbins, 27; defective roofs, eaves, spouting, etc., 37; accumulations of refuse, 10; defective yard paving, 19; other nuisances, 6.

During the year 396 premises have been inspected for vermin comprising 302 Council and 94 privately owned houses. Of these, 69 Council and 23 private houses were found to be infested with bed bugs. All these have received treatment, the method adopted varying with the degree of infestation. In the worst cases the skirting boards and other moveable woodwork have been removed and thorough spraying with Zaldecide carried out. Bedsteads and other furniture and pictures have been dismantled where possible and similarly treated. If found necessary, fumigation with Fumoid has been used in addition. All Council houses which on becoming vacant, are found to be infested, are thus treated.

In mild cases, tins of Zaldecide with spray cap have been left and the tenant instructed as to its most advantageous use.

In order to minimise the possibility of further infestation in Council houses, the following precautions are being carried out.

1. Before a Council house is occupied either by a tenant from another Council house or from private premises, all furniture etc. is examined and treated if found necessary.

2. The Sanitary Inspectors are working in close co-operation with the Council rent Collector, following up any case he finds dirty or suspects to be verminous.

3. All premises which have been disinfested are re-visited to ensure that there is no re-infestation and that instructions are being carried out.

Smoke Abatement—Eleven observations were taken in respect of six chimneys and on two occasions the managers of the works were interviewed regarding excessive emission of smoke.

Several observations were also made of the smoke emitted by the burning of ganister in open kilns, but, since the method of burning in small kilns has been adopted, the nuisance has been much reduced.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919—Thirty-seven complaints were received regarding the infestation of premises with rats. These were investigated and suitable poison provided. All the Council's refuse tips were frequently baited.

The Shops Act, 1934—Under this Act, 56 inspections have been made of the shops in the district. In four instances unsatisfactory conditions in regard to washing facilities and closet accommodation were found, which were remedied.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply—During the year 803 inspections were made of the Cowsheds and Dairies in the district.

Forty-two notices were served on cow-keepers to cleanse and limewash the cowsheds, all of which were complied with.

In three instances farmers were found to be keeping milch cows in unregistered sheds. When it was pointed out to them that this was a contravention of the Milk and Dairies Order, this use of the sheds was discontinued.

Five cowsheds were re-constructed or altered so as to comply with the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

Two new cowsheds were erected to accommodate 25 cows. One new dairy was built for a retailer.

There are now on the register 220 Cowkeepers, 192 of whom are also purveyors. Twenty-six purveyors are registered who are not cowkeepers.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, two farmers have been granted licences by the County Council for the production of Tuberculin Tested Milk, which is also bottled at the farm, and ten farmers have been granted licences for the production of Accredited Milk, which, in three instances, is bottled at the farm.

The special designations which may now be used in relation to milk are "Tuberculin Tested", Accredited", and "Pasteurised."

Tuberculin Tested Milk comes from cows that have passed the tuberculin test for freedom from tuberculosis. Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) is Tuberculin Tested Milk which is also pasteurised. Tuberculin Tested Milk (Certified) is Tuberculin Tested Milk which is bottled at the farm.

Accredited Milk comes from cows that have passed a veterinary inspection but not a test for tuberculosis.

Pasteurised Milk is milk that has been heated at 145 degrees Fahr. for 30 minutes to destroy any disease germs.

All these milks can be sold only under a licence from a local authority.

Three supplementary licences to sell Pasteurised Milk were issued by the District Council.

Veterinary inspections have been made weekly by the County Council's whole-time veterinary surgeons, who have been accompanied on most of their visits by one of the sanitary inspectors. The chief veterinary surgeon reports that 7,979 clinical examinations were carried out, 7,333 of cows in milk and 646 dry. During these inspections, 141 samples of milk and 19 of expectorate were taken for bacteriological examination. In 23 samples of milk and 15 of expectorate tubercle bacilli were demonstrated and the cows

responsible were slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order.

In addition 39 cows reported by their owners or otherwise and found to be suffering from scheduled forms of tuberculosis have been similarly dealt with, making a total of 77 cows slaughtered from this district.

Eighty-five cows were also noted to be suffering from forms of mastitis or 'garget', but, with the exception of the cows already mentioned, the remainder of the cattle were healthy and in good order.

A large number of cow-sheds have been brought up-to-date as far as possible and milk is being produced under clean conditions, the general cleanliness both of the cattle and premises being found to be satisfactory.

Meat—1,162 visits were paid to the twenty slaughter houses in the district, of which 11 are licensed annually and 9 are registered. They were, with one exception, found to be kept in a satisfactory condition as regards cleanliness and the regular and frequent removal of refuse and offal.

Under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, 81 pigs were slaughtered on private premises, involving 67 visits for inspection of the carcases. There has thus been a considerable reduction in the number of animals killed on private premises during the year.

Altogether, the carcases of 2,330 beasts, 56 calves, 5,299 sheep and 886 pigs were inspected. The carcases of 7 beasts and 4 pigs were entirely condemned. In 516 cases parts of the carcase or organs were condemned, as shown in the following table:—

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number inspected	2330	56	5299	886
All Diseases except Tuberculosis				
Whole carcases condemned	1	—	—	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	50	—	24	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	2.19	—	.45	1.13
Tuberculosis only				
Whole carcases condemned	6	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	436	—	—	24
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	18.97	—	—	2.71

The public market at Chapeltown was visited on 45 occasions. The meat stalls comply with the Regulations and no diseased meat was detected.

In one instance a serious breach of the Meat Regulations was detected, a butcher having slaughtered a cow for sale for human consumption without any notice having been given as required by Article 8 of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924. Proceedings were instituted and the magistrates imposed a fine of £5 with costs.

Under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, there are 37 persons licensed as slaughtermen.

HOUSING

During the year 232 houses were erected in the district, 102 of which were built by the Council and 130 by private enterprise.

Of the 102 Council houses, 30 were erected on the Greenhead Estate, Chapeltown, 62 at Ecclesfield which include 18 bungalows for ageing persons, and 10 at Tankersley which include two bungalows.

Of the houses built by private individuals, 30 were erected at Chapeltown, 20 at Ecclesfield, 31 at Grenoside, 30 at Oughtibridge, 7 at Worrall, 10 at Stannington, and 2 at Loxley. Most of these have been occupied by immigrants. 24 of the houses were occupied by residents at Chapeltown, 13 at Ecclesfield, 7 at Grenoside, 6 at Worrall but none at Oughtibridge, Stannington or Loxley. Almost all are built for sale.

The Council have, up to the end of the year, erected 1,005 houses. Of these, 240 are situated at Ecclesfield, 160 at Chapeltown, 289 at Mortomley, and 38 at Grenoside in the parish of Ecclesfield. In Bradfield Parish there are 114 at Oughtibridge, 8 at Worrall, 52 at Stannington, 8 at Dungworth and 36 at Loxley. In Tankersley parish there are 60 houses. Forty-two of the Council houses are bungalows for ageing persons, 22 being situated at Chapeltown, 18 at Ecclesfield, and 2 at Tankersley. Included in the above figures are 34 wooden buildings which were erected soon after the war, and which are now to be demolished.

Since 1920, private enterprise has been responsible for the erection of 1483 houses. Of these 296 have been built at Chapeltown, 235 at Ecclesfield, 204 at Grenoside, 1 at Thorpe Hesley, 5 at Wadsley, 117 at Oughtibridge, 74 at Middlewood, 29 at Wharncliffe Side, 51 at Loxley, 293 at Stannington, 93 at Worrall, 4 at Dungworth, 37 in other parts of Bradfield parish, 35 at Tankersley and 9 in Wortley parish.

Under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, loans have been granted by the Council to 18 individuals and under sec. 91 of the Housing Act, 1936, loans from Building Societies have been guaranteed in 14 instances.

Twenty-eight houses are now being erected by the Council at Oughtibridge on a site of 2.487 acres and 14 at Loxley on a site of 7.987 acres.

Building sites have also been obtained at Ecclesfield, Grenoside, and Tankersley. At Stannington a site of 13.598 acres is the subject of a Compulsory Purchase Order.

During the year the following areas were declared Clearance Areas and Clearance Orders made:—

	Situation of Property	No. of houses
1.	Chapeltown (Wood Street)	14
2.	Highgreen (Pack Horse Lane)	10
3.	Ecclesfield (Mill Road)	10
4.	Chapeltown (Smithy Carr)	7
5.	Chapeltown (Greenhead Lane)	6
6.	Chapeltown (Chapel Square)	4
7.	Chapeltown (Lane End)	6
8.	Highgreen (The Fold and Wortley Rd.)	7
9.	Highgreen (Piece End)	3
10.	Highgreen (Potter Hill Lane)	4
11.	Chapeltown (Warren Hill)	6
12.	Grenoside (Lump Lane)	6
13.	Grenoside (Main Street)	3
14.	Thorpe Hesley (Savage Row)	5
15.	Highgreen (Chapeltown Road)	4
16.	Tankersley (The Square)	17
17.	Tankersley (Colliery Yard No. 1)	9
18.	Tankersley (Colliery Yard No. 2)	3
19.	Ecclesfield (Stocks Hill)	12
20.	Ecclesfield (Gray Hill)	5

	Situation of Property	No. of House
21.	Ecclesfield (Yew Lane)	2
22.	Ecclesfield (Townend Road)	2
23.	Ecclesfield (High Street)	2
24.	Worrall (Roscoe Cottages)	4
25.	Worrall (Towngate)	3
26.	Oughtibridge (Orchard Street)	3
27.	Ecclesfield (High Street No. 2)	3
28.	Ecclesfield (Stocks Hill No. 2)	3

All these Orders were confirmed by the Ministry of Health with the following exceptions.

In the case of Thorpe Hesley (Savage Row) Clearance Order, the house No. 1 Savage Row was excluded from the Order.

With regard to the three Tankersley Clearance Orders, these were not confirmed in view of the undertaking offered by the owners not to use certain of the houses for human habitation, but it was suggested that the Council proceed under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. Action was subsequently taken under this section and an undertaking given by the owners and lessees not to use five houses, Nos. 32-36, The Square for habitation but for colliery purposes, was accepted. In regard to the remaining houses Demolition Orders were made.

The Clearance Order, Ecclesfield (Stocks Hill No. 2) was not confirmed.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1937

1.—INSPECTION

(1) (*a*) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 241

(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose 479

(2) (*a*) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 93

(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose 299

(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 9

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 85

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 144

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

A—**Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.**

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 88

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice—

(*a*)by owners 57

(*b*) by Local Authority in default of owners —

B.—**Proceedings under Public Health Acts.**

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 51

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—

(*a*) by owners 51

(*b*) by Local Authority in default of owners —

C—**Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.**

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 45

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 31

D—**Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.**

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made —

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

4.—HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV—OVERCROWDING

(*a*) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 75

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein 77

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 534

(*b*) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 18

(*c*) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 76

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases 460

No case occurred in which a dwelling house again became overcrowded after steps had been taken for the abatement of the overcrowding.

Of the 76 cases of overcrowding relieved, 28 were abated by Council tenants removing into larger Council houses, 18 by tenants of private houses being accommodated in Council houses, 10 by tenants of private houses securing larger private houses, and 20 by reduction in the numbers of members of the family.

Accommodation has been found for 18 large families by throwing two adjoining Council houses into one.

Under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, undertakings were accepted from the owners in 15 instances.

The whole district is now embraced in Town Planning. The period within which the draft schemes relating to the three areas shall be adopted has been extended by the Minister of Health to September 30th, 1938.

During the year 592 plans were approved under the Building Bye-Laws. Of these, 354 related to new dwelling houses, 23 to additions or alterations to existing houses, 83 to garages, 12 to extensions to factories or workshops, 69 to toolsheds and greenhouses, 5 to shops, 5 to dairies and cowsheds, 2 to canteens, 3 to sports pavilions, 1 to a bakery, 1 to a Maternity Home, 11 to water closets and 23 to various small erections. Several breaches of the bye-laws were dealt with.

Physical Training and Recreation—There are nine public parks and recreation grounds belonging to the Council, viz :—

Chapeltown Park	23 acres
Ecclesfield Park	22.6 ,,
Burncross Recreation Ground	3.58 ,,
Grenoside Recreation Ground	6.85 ,,
Mortomley Recreation Ground	9.0 ,,
Thorpe Recreation Ground	7.0 ,,
Glen Howe Park	18.75 ,,
Loxley Playing Fields	5.0 ,,
Dungworth Recreation Ground	5.4 ,,

A public park at Oughtibridge of 4.5 acres is vested in the Bradfield Parish Council.

Playing fields not vested in local authorities exist at Oughtibridge (8.6 acres) and at Low Bradfield (1.9 acres).

Additional sites for playing fields are being sought at Tankersley, Warren, Potter Hill, Wharncliffe Side and Worrall.

Factories and Workshops—During the year 117 inspections were made of the workshops in the district and 50 inspections of the sanitary accommodation in factories.

There are now 46 workshops registered, viz:—Cutlers, 3; Filecutters, 2; Gimlet Makers, 3; Joiners, 14; Blacksmiths, 8; Plumbers, 1; Boot-repairers, 5; Firewood Makers, 3; Bakers, 6; Drysalter, 1. These employ 71 men, 17 females and 25 boys.

Seven notices were issued for the limewashing of the premises, which were complied with.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER ANDERSON

May 13th, 1938.